

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 08900 231801Z

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ACTION AF-08

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R 231020Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1941

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 8900

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, US

SUBJ: INFORMAL MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA

REF: (A) NAIROBI 8613, (B) STATE 204786, (C) STATE 206124

1. ON AUGUST 19 I HAD A 40-MINUTE SCHEDULED, INFORMAL MEETING ALONE WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA. I ATTEMPTED TO INTRODUCE TWO SUBSTANTIVE SUBJECTS (UGANDA, TANZANIA) WITH KENYATTA BUT HE CLEARLY DID NOT WISH TO DISCUSS THEM. KENYATTA DID NOT RAISE SUBJECT MILITARY REQUIREMENTS, EVEN WHEN I GAVE HIM EXCELLENT PICTORIAL DESCRIPTIVE F5-E/F BROCHURE WHICH HE HAD NOT SEEN PREVIOUSLY AND RECEIVED WITH GREAT INTEREST.

2. I REFERRED TO OUR LAST MEETING AT WHICH I HAD RAISED SUBJECT OF NAMING A KENYAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON. I NOTED U.S. HAD GIVEN AGREEMENT, THAT WE HAD MET, AND THAT PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE I PLANNED FOR HIM TO MEET AMERICAN BUSINESS REPS IN KENYA, PLUS RECEIVE BRIEFING FROM EMBASSY STAFF ON HOW WE VIEW U.S. INTERESTS IN KENYA. KENYATTA INDICATED SATISFACTION. KENYATTA HAS NOT YET PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED APPOINTMENT.

3. FOUR KENYATTA CHILDREN VISITED USS BEARY AUGUST 18, WERE FED MILKSHAKES AND CANDY, AND TOURED SHIP WITH BODYGUARDS AND ENTOURAGE. I SAID I UNDERSTOOD THEY HAD ENJOYED VISIT. KENYATTA IMMEDIATELY TELEPHONED
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TO INSTRUCT THEM TO COME TO OFFICE TO TELL ME DIRECTLY

THEIR IMPRESSIONS; THEY CAME, THE THREE BOYS STILL WEARING SHIP'S CAPS.

4. KENYATTA INQUIRED RE PROGRESS INVITATION TO VISIT U.S., TO WHICH I REPLIED PER REFTEL B.

5. KENYATTA VERY PLEASED WITH USIA COLOR PHOTO-STORY BROCHURE OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S AFRICA TRIP. KENYATTA ASKED FOR MORE COPIES.

6. KENYATTA THEN ASKED ME WHETHER I COULD RETURN TO STATE HOUSE FOR DINNER AND AFTERWARDS WATCH DANCERS WITH HIM. DINNER GUESTS INCLUDED MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PLANNING AND MRS. KIBAKI. HE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM OPERATION IN UK, SEEMED IN VERY GOOD FORM. ALSO, KOINANGE -- AND WIFE. I WAS FLATTERED BY INVITATION AS NO OTHER DIPLOMAT HAS RECEIVED SUCH INVITATION.

7. RETURN FOR EVENING INVITATION ALLOWED ME TO GIVE KENYATTA SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER ON SOUTH AFRICA (REF C) WHICH WAS ONLY RECEIVED IN NAIROBI THAT MORNING. KENYATTA INDICATED VERY GREAT PLEASURE WITH SECRETARY'S LETTER.
MARSHALL

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